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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE THIRD DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Administrative and programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document E/CN.4/1997/L.12/Rev.1 entitled "Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance"

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. By paragraph 18 of the draft resolution, the Commission on Human Rights would reaffirm the General Assembly's recommendation by which it requested the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the Committee against Racial Discrimination (CERD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and other relevant United Nations bodies, non-governmental organizations and Internet service providers, to organize a seminar with a view to assessing the role of the Internet in the light of the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

2. By paragraph 45, the Commission on Human Rights would recommend to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, the convening of a world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance not later than the year 2001.

3. By paragraph 48 (a), the Commission on Human Rights would recommend to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, that the Commission on Human Rights should act as the preparatory committee for the world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that its deliberations should be open-ended, allowing for the full participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with established practice.

B. Relationship of requests to the programme of work

4. The activities referred to above would take place during the period covered by two medium-term plans (1992-1997 and 1998-2001) and fall respectively under (a) Programme 35: Promotion and protection of human rights, subprogramme 2: Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities, as contained in document A/47/6/Rev.1, and (b) Programme 19: Human rights, subprogramme 1: Right to development, research and analysis (A/51/6 (Prog. 19)). At the same time, the activities would be carried out under budget section 21 in 1996-1997 and under the budget section to be established for the human rights programme in the biennium 2000-2001.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

Expert seminar on the role of the Internet

5. An expert seminar on the role of the Internet with regard to the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination would be convened by the Office of the High Commissioner/Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation and with the participation of CERD, UNESCO, ITU and other relevant United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and Internet service providers.

6. The expert seminar would meet in Geneva for five working days during 1997. Provisions would be required for travel and per diem of five experts (including the Special Rapporteur on racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and one member of CERD). Conference services with interpretation in the six official languages would be provided within existing resources. However, the number of languages and the actual cost would be determined on the basis of the composition of the experts.

World conference

7. In accordance with paragraph 45 of the draft resolution, a world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related

intolerance would be convened not later than the year 2001. The world conference is envisaged to meet for five working days. For the purposes of costing, it is presumed that the conference would be convened in Geneva.

8. The substantive servicing of the world conference and its preparatory meetings would require additional provisions for general temporary assistance as follows: 18 work months at the P-4 level, 12 work months at the P-3 level and 30 work months at the General Service level.

9. Full conference services in all six languages would be required for three simultaneous meetings in the morning and afternoon for a total of six meetings per day in respect of a plenary (which would meet for five working days) and a main and drafting committees (which are expected to meet for four working days each).

10. The preparatory process for the world conference would consist of: (i) a preparatory committee which is envisaged to meet in Geneva on two occasions for a period of five working days each immediately after the conclusion of the regular annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights; and (ii) a three-day pre-conference high-level consultation meeting to be convened in Geneva immediately before the opening of the world conference.

11. The preparatory committee would consist of a plenary scheduled to meet for five working days with full conference services in six languages. Full conference services with interpretation in six languages would also be required for the high-level consultation meeting which would take place in Geneva immediately before the opening of the world conference.

D. Modification to the approved programme of work

12. The programme of work included under section 21 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the 1996-1997 biennium would have to be modified as follows:

Subprogramme 2. Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups

Activities 1. Parliamentary services

(b) Technical services (new output): Servicing a seminar on the role of the Internet with regard to the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

13. The estimated full cost of the above activities is itemized as follows:

A. Expert seminar

	(US$) 1997
Section 21 (Human rights)	
Travel and subsistence of 5 experts (for a period of 5 working days)	23 000
Total section 21	**23 000**
Section 26E (Conferences Services)	
Meeting services (10 meetings, 6 languages)	60 500
Pre-session documentation (100 pages, 6 languages)	97 800
Post-session documentation (32 pages, 6 languages)	32 900
Other requirements	3 300
Total section 26E	**194 500**

B. World conference

	2000/2001 Biennium (US$)
(Human rights)	
General temporary assistance (GTA)	
18 work/months at P-4 level	194 400
12 work/months at P-3 level	109 200
30 work/months at G-4 level	177,000
Total human rights	**480 600**

(Conferences Services, Geneva)

Preparatory Committee at Geneva	2000 (US$)	2001 (US$)
Meeting services for the plenary (10 meetings, 6 languages)	61 300	61 300
Pre-session documentation (10 documents, 200 pages, 6 languages)	215 100	215 100
In-session documentation (5 documents, 120 pages, 6 languages)	127 700	127 700
Post-session documentation (5 documents, 120 pages, 6 languages)	127 700	127 700
Other requirements	11 100	11 100
	542 900	**542 900**

Pre-conference consultation at Geneva	2001 (US$)
Meeting services (6 meetings, 6 languages)	36 300
Pre-session documentation (1 document, 32 pages, 6 languages)	33 100
In-session documentation (10 documents, 30 pages, 6 languages)	36 000
Post-session documentation (1 document, 32 pages, 6 languages)	29 600
Other requirements	1,900
	136 900
World conference	
Meeting services for the plenary (10 meetings, 6 languages)	63 000
Meetings services for main and drafting committees (16 meetings, 6 languages)	96 800
Pre-session documentation (30 documents, 600 pages, 6 languages)	645 200
In-session documentation (20 documents, 100 pages, 6 languages)	128 000
Post-session documentation (2 documents, 300 pages, 6 languages)	304 800
Other requirements	34 700
	1 272 500
Total Conference Services Division	**2 495 200**

F. Potential for absorption

14. The requirements of $ 23,000 relating to the convening of the expert seminar considered in paragraph 18 of draft resolution L.12 are expected to be absorbed from within existing provisions under section 21 (Human rights) of the 1996-1997 programme budget. Similarly, the estimated conference costs of $ 194,500 will be absorbed within existing provisions under section 26E (Conferences Services Division, UNOG) of the 1996-1997 programme budget.

15. The substantive costs associated with the convening of the world conference and its preparatory activities are estimated at US$ 480,600. The conference-servicing requirements are estimated at US$ 2,495,200.

16. The above requirements will be considered in the context of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.